

Double Number with 39th Annual Report

TOC H **JOURNAL**



APRIL
1959

PRESENTING NEWS, VIEWS AND IDEAS



PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT FORTY-SEVEN
FRANCIS STREET - LONDON - S.W.1

1/6^D

New Publications

After remaining out-of-print for a very long time, a fifth edition, considerably revised, of "A Pocketful of Prayers for Toc H" is now in the press and copies will become available this month at 1s. 6d. (postage 3d.).

Also being printed is a new introductory booklet "A Dream Comes True", price 6d. (postage 2d.). Written by John Durharn and illustrated with Ian Chelu's drawings, this new booklet will prove a useful and popular means of helping newcomers to know more about the Movement.

Holiday Week

A Summer Holiday Week, open to members of Toc H and Toc H Women's Association, their families and friends, is being held from July 25 to August 1 at Felden Lodge, Hemel Hempstead, Herts. The countryside offers attractive walks and tours to nearby places of interest. There are good facilities for games and outdoor sports.

Full particulars can be had by writing direct (with stamped addressed envelope please) to : Summer Holiday Week Secretary, Toc H Women's Association, Crutched Friars House, London, E.C.3.

Advertisements

Manufacturers of a wide range of articles of interest to our readers will find the Journal pages very helpful in making their goods and services known. Enquiries should be sent to Stan Waters, who handles our advertising, at Messrs. Arthur H. Wheeler & Co., St. Stephen's House, Victoria Embankment, London, S.W.1.

Ourselves

The Toc H Journal is published monthly, eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to all Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.

THIRTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

TOC H JOURNAL



APRIL 1959

Letters and articles are welcomed and are
printed as individual points of view only

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Together with a Supplement:

THE 39th ANNUAL REPORT OF TOC H including
Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts
List of Areas and Branches, Home and Overseas.

COVER PICTURE: The Toc H (London) Rugby Team on the ball. This newly formed club is being backed-up by the London Marks, but more players and non-playing members are needed. The Secretary is Miles Quest, Toc H Mark XX, 67 Upper Richmond Road, London, S.W.15.

Photograph by Roger France, Toc H Mark VII.

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In and Out notes & comment



Taking Stock

THE EFFECTIVE STRENGTH OF TOC H IS ALMOST entirely made up of small groups of men, and the ANNUAL REPORT published with this number provides a yearly opportunity of seeing the Movement as a whole. The Report tells of considerable initiative being shown in many fields and there is also encouraging evidence of the interest and practical support given by friends outside the Movement; the number of new Builders enrolled during the year being an all-time record. In noting the current membership figures it is well to recall the toll taken by death during the past year on those still 'in harness'. Their names, published month by month under "The Elder Brethren", account for at least half the decrease shown and provide the greatest possible incentive for sharing "the good thing thus begun" with others at present outside our ranks.

'Tweeters' and 'Woofers'

UNTIL RECENTLY, WE REGARDED A TAPE MACHINE as a wonderful and quite inexplicable magic box. This has been changed since we came across a copy of *The Right Way to Tape Record*. Now, with scarcely any prompting, we are able to discuss such things as 'tweeters', 'woofers' and 'wow'. For the layman looking for advice on the different types of tape recorders and microphones, and how to get the best out of them, both indoors and out, we recommend this inexpensive and helpful volume, published at seven shillings and sixpence by Elliot's, Kingswood, Surrey.

Women's Weekend

THE STATUE OF SIR JOHN CASS, WEARING THE full-bottomed wig of his day, gazed benignly down on the Central Councillors meeting in London last month for the Annual Meeting of Toc H Women's Association. The weekend was not entirely an all-woman one, for following the Council's business, on the Sunday morning they listened to a lively talk by Frank Foster, Director of the After-Care Association, on and around the problem of juvenile delinquency. Later in the day, the Founder Padre was given the warmest of welcomes when he appeared on the platform and spoke to the gathering. Tubby was followed by Alec Churcher, with a most interesting account of his recent seven months safari in Africa.

Off-Key Notes

PHILIP CARTER

Some impressions gathered at the first of the fifteen Keynote Conferences that took place last month at Ellinsward, Haywards Heath.

THE FIRST IMPRESSION of the first Keynote Conference was of grand staff-work, both at Headquarters and at Ellinsward. Right from 6 p.m. on Friday evening every item followed naturally and smoothly on the one before it. This was V.I.P. treatment indeed, a copious fulfilment of the circular's promise. The quarters were most comfortable: the lounge and library were delights.

What a crafty intelligence service Headquarters must have, to know so exactly what is going on, in which unit and who can best tell the tale. The choice of Epsom's 'Operation Octopus', and of Mander as the teller, was superb.



Right from the word 'go' group discussions showed clearly that many units had put both thought and effort into the opening months of the Keynote campaign. Some had deeds to record, others problems to discuss and ideas to offer. Those who listened, and noted, took away plenty.

Thanks, Alec Churcher, for the comprehensive spread of literature "for reference only". That must have taken some collecting. Note for Toc H Bookstall: a dozen 6d. scribbling pads would have sold readily at 1s. each.

Every unit omitting to send its Keymen to at least one Conference is depriving them of a valuable experience in fellowship and itself of the momentum engendered by such an experience.

If the Staff could stand the strain, this sort of thing ought to happen more often. Every unit in the U.K. ought to get at least one man to one Conference: the wise ones will get one to more than one. And two men are always better than one, even though the reason for pairs at any conference is not the reason which ruled in the Ark!

He Sent Leanness

FRANKLY this reviewer's purpose is to commend this book* in such a way that thousands will rush to buy it. I wish it could be banned by the Archbishop of Canterbury and that the notice of the ban could find its way into the newspapers. How can I persuade you otherwise to read this excellent book about prayer? It is written in a way which will shock you, amuse you (yes, amuse) and expose the self-centred muddled thinking about the God-Man relationship. This book cannot possibly be read by the wrong people for in this matter of prayer all can be wrong. Our inherent self-centredness leads us to mistake our desires (if they are expressed in noble language) for real prayer. Mr. Head, preserving the rhythms, produces what seem at first sight to be shocking parodies of well-known prayers, but they are in fact a shrewd exposure of the way in which we tend to talk to Father Christmas rather than to pray to Him who creates, redeems and sanctifies us.

Every page has a wise comment and the temptation is therefore to read the book piecemeal. But to appreciate the implied argument which is sustained throughout it should be read as a book from beginning to end. Only so can the short but brilliant postscript be appreciated. If you have never read a book on prayer, please read this one, your misgivings will be forcibly removed. If you have read many and are still a humble learner this astringent book will help where others written with the best of intentions confuse or depress. This is a grand and honest book.

R. J. DAVIES.

* *He Sent Leanness* by David Head. (Epworth Press 6s. 0d.)



Far Cry

overseas notes

GEOFF MARTIN

CHILDREN OF SUNGEI BULOH

REG GILL, the Secretary of the newly formed Kuala Lumpur group in Malaya, has brought us up to date with events there during the last few months. This is an extract from his letter:

The Christmas appeal for the children of Sungei Buloh Leper Colony was a great success. A fifteen cwt. van and three cars, all loaded to the gunwales, delivered the goods on Monday December 22. We were met by the charming and dedicated Medical Superintendent, Dr. K. M. Reddy, who took us along to see the children. There are 270 of them, and they look, in the main, very fit, and full of fun, as you can judge from the enclosed photograph.



. . . those poor little fellows had polio as well as leprosy . . .

They were very pleased with the mass of toys, clothes and shoes, both new and second-hand, which we were able to collect, and they sang for us Christmas carols in very good English. I have on the file a wonderful letter of thanks from Dr. Reddy. In all, there are 2,300 patients at Sungei Buloh, and the magnitude of the task to make any worthwhile contribution is enormous. However, on this occasion we did rather well.

NEWS FROM NIGERIA

Akinlolu Adamolekun, writing from Lagos.

Toc H was introduced to this country not many years ago. Since its inception, many people have embraced its ideals, many there are that have been regular at the meetings and at the Jobs and Services, and many still there are, not only the members, that have now been convinced "Toc H has really come to stay".

I am particularly happy about this because it is possible for a new society to die a natural death soon after its introduction to people. But that has not been the fate of Toc H in Nigeria.

Toc H is well known in the societies of voluntary services in Lagos the capital. There are two Branches and the average attendance at any meeting of either Branch can surely be put at 20. Any critic might say of what significance could that count in a population of about 252,000. We are at the very beginning and soon a little can become great.

Our deep and heartfelt thanks go to Miss Owen of the Women's Association in England who annually visits Nigeria and at every visit she has made it a duty to attend the Men's meetings and jobs, at great expense and sacrifice. She has shown us the way by all she did in the short time she was able to stay and teach. She is so well known in Toc H circles here that she needs no introduction whenever she attends. In December 1958, she was again here with us —donated generously to our Christmas Appeal, sang carols with us, and at the Vigil she was there. She is the only regular overseas visitor to us and she has presented us in the true light to the Headquarters. We are now called upon to emulate her.

A Landmark

Barely a year ago, some young ladies formed themselves into a group later on known as the Women's Association of Toc H. It is the first of its kind in this country. They owe much of their success also to Miss Owen for her advice. At her last visit here, December 1958, she initiated the first three members: Louisa, Christianah and Elizabeth (Pilot, Secretary and a member respectively). There again a nucleus is formed and it is for them to propagate the spirit of Christian-living among their group. In a short time, this little group by God's grace shall become great.

Incidentally the spirit of voluntary service is not foreign to us in Nigeria. What appears to be our common obstacle is the mass exodus of our members to institutions far away. Most are officers that are not easily replaced. With determination and a little strong will power, the few that are left could accomplish many things.

May God always guide the family.

A.A.

GRAPEVINE



Bob Simmons, Warden of
Talbot House, Singapore

Some time ago, a friend acquired a pleasant little flat in Bloomsbury through a chance conversation with a stranger in Zanzibar. A sentence extracted from a letter written by Bob Simmons, the Warden of the Singapore house, is another example of how good news travels: "Douglas Maddock got away by B.O.A.C. sooner than he expected but has promised to return to Singapore and to stay here. I was amused when I asked him how he came to find us and he replied that he was told all about Talbot House, Singapore by a German he had met in the north of India."

KAIKU RATANJI WADIA

The following is an extract from a letter dated February 3rd from Charles Potts (Hon. Commissioner, Uganda).

Last night Kaiku Ratanji Wadia died as a result of a heart attack. We shall all miss him terribly. At the meeting of Kampala Branch in the evening we had agreed to send some flowers and our good wishes to him in hospital. At the same meeting we had elected him Branch Jobmaster for the ensuing year. At the end of the meeting we prayed for him.

He has done more to serve Toc H and to carry out its aims than any other of us here. He was honorary treasurer of Uganda Toc H, also of the Boys' Clubs Association, of the Youth Council, of the Nakivubo Settlement and many other good causes at one time or another. He always went (he was too sedate to leap) with joy to any task for others. He often complained to me that we in Toc H were not doing enough to meet the needs of others. He was the most regular of all the prison visitors and was recently made a Visiting Justice to the Central Prison. He started the Prison Visitors' Association. He was a Parsec; would that I were as good a Christian.

He lived near the Roman Catholic Church and every day he went in there quietly to pray. Often when one visited him in his business office one found him praying.



Open Hustings readers' letters



The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H and asks that they be written briefly and to the point. Effort is made to include a representative selection, and they are printed as individual view-points, not necessarily those of the Movement as a whole.

Holiday Help

VOLUNTEERS are required to help for periods of two weeks at Seaside Holiday Homes on the south-east coast during the summer months, May to October, 1959. Those wishing to help should be strong and healthy as most of the work involves pushing guests in wheeled chairs and helping them to enjoy a normal holiday. Board and lodging will be provided and travelling expenses between London and the Holiday Home refunded. Anyone who would like to help in this way should write for further particulars to *The Assistant Secretary, National Association for the Paralysed, 1 York Street, Baker Street, London, W.1.*

BARBARA MACROBERT,
Secretary.

London, W.1.

'Accommodation' Hostels

MIGHT I take advantage of your columns to bring to the attention of readers a need which has arisen within the Youth Hostels Association, a movement whose objects are "to help all, especially young people of limited means, to a greater knowledge, love and care of the countryside, particularly by providing hostels or other simple accommodation for them in their travels".

Basically the Association has two types of hostel: (1) "controlled" hostels which are owned and administered by the Association, and (2) "accommodation" hostels which are owned by private individuals and run by them for the Association.

The London Region of the Y.H.A. is anxious to have two small "accommodation" hostels in the Chiltern Hills situated in or near Stokenchurch and Great Missenden respectively. No strenuous work is involved (it is envisaged that members will do their own cooking) and the post is therefore particularly suitable for retired persons.

If any of your readers are interested in providing and running such a property I would be pleased to supply them with financial details and any further information they require.

BRYAN SPEEDY.

Chiltern Development Officer,
London Region Youth Hostels,
Ltd.

Branch Banners

How delighted I was to see the reproduction of the Otley Branch banner in the March JOURNAL. It has long been a matter of regret to me so many Branches have been sadly unimaginative in the illustration

they have used to decorate their banners. There is not much scope for humour and imagination if Branches can do no better than reproduce their local township's coat of arms. Or, even less imaginatively, simply reproduce a Toc H Lamp.

The Branch banner is, after all, the 'visiting card' of the Branch and with a bit of imagination they could surely produce banners bearing strange devices and showing the kind of thing for which their particular town is noted. Thus, well-done Otley for giving us all a picture of a printing machine, for which Otley has been noted since the first machine was produced there in 1858. In some places there is surely an opportunity for a touch of humour. I have always wanted to see a Branch in Tipton, Staffs, because I would dearly like to see a Tipton Branch banner with a handsome illustration of the famous Tipton Slasher. Whether Wigan have a Branch banner or not I do not know, but I would certainly like to think that it depicted their famous Pier. I am sure care would always be taken that the humour was of high quality.

EXCELSIOR!

(Name and address supplied)

Banners into Print

PAGE 76 of the March JOURNAL gives me the first opportunity I have ever had of appearing in print, and I feel quite sure that all our Otley members will be proud, when they see their new banner illustrated. One thing I would say here, is, that we recently had our 21st birthday party and we are still attracting new members.

Of myself, I wouldn't say much, save only that in 1902 I

was apprenticed to Messrs. Wm. Dawson & Sons (Printers Engineers), Otley, and that I remained with them, and their associated firms, Payne & Elliott, until the end of 1952, when I became retired.

I may say that I know of your printers, Messrs. Geo. Marshall & Co., Ltd., having actually done drawing work for many of the machines which Dawson, Payne & Elliott have built for them and I particularly note in your "Words into Print"—the Wharfedale Press fitted with "Perfection Delivery" on which our JOURNAL is apparently being printed.

JOHN W. HAYWOOD.

Otley, Yorks.



"Now, now, Harold, you'll never get those sort of 'Words into Print'!"

[In addition to the spirited drawing by R. F. Waters reproduced above, we also gratefully acknowledge the letters and kind comments on last month's Supplement, "Words into Print", received from many other readers.—ED.]

The Elder Brethren

'With proud thanksgiving . . .'

ALDER.—On January 31, **NORMAN ALDER**, aged 61, a member of Melton Mowbray Branch. Elected 19.10.'53.

BALDRY.—On February 28, **GEORGE ARTHUR BALDRY**, aged 68, a member of Attleborough Branch. Elected 31.10.'51.

BATTERS.—On February 4, **FRED BATTERS**, aged 78, a member of Llandudno Branch. Elected 1.1.'51.

BEWLEY.—Suddenly, on February 17, **JOHN BEWLEY**, aged 49, Hon. Warden of Toc H Mark III and a member of Hackney Branch. Elected 1.6.'48.

BRIGHAM.—On February 4, **RONALD WILLIAM GEORGE BRIGHAM**, aged 62, a member of Rugby Branch. Elected 3.7.'28.

BROWN.—On February 5, **REGINALD SYDNEY BROWN**, aged 43, a member of Seven Kings Branch. Elected 4.2.'46.

CLAYDEN.—On January 29, **GEORGE FRANK BELSHAM CLAYDEN**, aged 80, a member of Saffron Walden Branch. Elected 27.4.'43.

DARNELEY.—On February 24, **JOHN DARNELEY**, aged 71, a member of Sandown Branch. Elected 1.9.'33.

DARVILL.—On February 10, **WILLIAM GEORGE DARVILL**, aged 67, a member of Shoeburyness Branch. Elected 30.7.'57.

GIBSON.—On February 18, **CHARLES GIBSON**, aged 47, a member of Wanstead Branch. Elected 17.2.'32.

GOODMAN.—On December 23, the Rev. **ERNEST WILLIAM GOODMAN**, a South Western Area member. Elected 20.8.'47.

HERMISTON.—On February 26, **JAMES HERMISTON**, a member of Saltburn-by-Sea Branch. Elected 26.9.'27.

HEWITT.—On February 1, **GEORGE ROBERT HEWITT**, aged 55, a member of Exeter Branch. Elected 2.4.'36.

HEYWOOD.—On January 26, **FRED HEYWOOD**, a North Western Area member. Elected 6.7.'36.

HOWARD.—On February 20, the Rev. **ARTHUR E. HOWARD**, Pastor of the Lansdowne Church, Glasgow, formerly Staff Padre. Elected 1.12.'27.

HUNT.—On January 30, **JOHN HUNT**, aged 72, a founder member of Catterick Village Branch. Elected 14.6.'38.

LEES.—On February 1, **JACK LEES**, aged 44, a member of Castle Donington Branch. Elected 11.11.'57.

LONGDEN. On January 31, **CHARLES EDWARD LONGDEN**, aged 46, a member of Bailiffe Bridge Branch. Elected 1.6.'58.

MONYPENNY.—On January 28, **GEORGE PHILIP MONYPENNY**, aged 73, a member of Rustington Branch. Elected 22.10.'58.

PELLING.—On February 14, **ALFRED JAMES PELLING**, aged 56, a member of Pickhurst Green Branch. Elected 31.8.'51.

PHILPOT.—On January 7, **CECIL STANLEY PHILPOT**, aged 78, a member of Battle Branch. Elected 24.8.'28.

PRICE.—On January 22, **SAMUEL PRICE**, aged 60, a member of Northenden Branch. Elected 17.6.'50.

SATTERFORD.—On February 12, DENYS A. SATTERFORD, aged 43, a member of Chelsea Branch. Elected 13.5.'33.

SMITH.—On February 10, WILLIAM F. SMITH, aged 52, a member of Fulham Branch. Elected 25.5.'34.

THOMAS.—On January 13, JESSE THOMAS, aged 82, a member of East Sheppey Branch. Elected 19.11.'32.

TOMLINS.—On December 7, HARRY JOHN TOMLINS, aged 90, a member of Droitwich Branch. Elected 1.3.'48.

WALES.—On February 2, PETER WALES, aged 39, a member of Lowestoft Branch. Elected 10.4.'37.

In Memoriam

ARTHUR E. HOWARD

After a long and painful illness, borne with great gallantry and quietude of spirit, Arthur Howard passed from us on February 20, 1959. Cruel though his loss feels to his friends, he would not have them mourn but rather rejoice in that 'transforming friendship' which leads men into the heart, mystery and purpose of life.

He was a big man physically, mentally and spiritually, the true happy warrior; prodigal of his great gifts and humble in using and sharing them with other men. It was his extraordinary capacity for creative friendship, with all kinds and conditions of men and women, that marked his whole life, even exceeding his equally notable gifts as a prophet and a teacher. We know from those who shared his experience, how this young Australian who always carried something of the sunshine of his native land about with him, maintained with and for his fellow prisoners through the weary years 1914-1918 in the prison camp at Ruhleben near Berlin, an awareness of the potentialities of a life and a certainty of spirit which have echoed down the years.



Arthur E. Howard

In the years of study that followed at Oxford and Cambridge, and as a secretary in the Student Christian Movement, his leadership confirmed many younger men in their vocation, and led others to adventure in life by the contagion of his spirit. In 1925 he went to his first charge on Tyneside, then moving into the difficulties of the industrial depression; young men gathered around him in those hard years and learned something of their craft from this master journeyman. Four years later he moved to Liverpool to a new housing area, to build a new church and relate it to the larger community in need of friendship and communal leadership. From 1933 to 1938 he was an Area Padre

on the staff of Toc H, first in the old North Western Area and thereafter in Scotland. These were years of great fruitfulness since they afforded opportunities for friendship and teaching with a great diversity of men, many of whom were outside any religious institution. Throughout these areas there stand the living witnesses to what happened then.

In 1938 Arthur returned to the Church, this time in Cardiff, in a country drifting anxiously into war. The years that followed were grim but the creative teaching went on, not only in the church but with men on Civil Defence, in Toc H and with those in prison. When the war ended, he returned to Glasgow where for the last fourteen years he worked and witnessed, not only in his own congregation at Lansdowne and in the Presbytery of Glasgow, but wherever men and women would meet and share a mutual friendship. One of his great concerns during this period was for those tens of thousands moving out into new housing areas to start life afresh. For some years he was convenor of the Church Extension Committee of the Presbytery of Glasgow, and he spent himself without stint to develop the opportunities which the challenge of the new housing area presents.

This bald statement of the record is quite inadequate to convey both the scope and the nature of this man's life. It was so acutely personal to those—and they are very many—who shared it with him. He was no solemn figure; to be serious with him was also to be joyful, he shared our pleasures as well as our sorrows and they were transformed. How he loved the game of cricket, to the last as he lay on his sick bed he listened avidly to the descriptions of the M.C.C.'s tour in Australia. The cut and thrust of a rugby match at Murrayfield or in a border foray never lost their savour for him. And the quieter pleasures too; his love of music, the poets, and the great hills of the upper Spey, Galloway, and the Lake District, as he shared them with his family and friends. Always and everywhere he demonstrated by the winsomeness of his life the Glory of God.

We are his inheritors, since in some words of Francis Bacon's copied into his autograph book by a friend nearly thirty years ago, we read "Men have their time, and die many times in desire of some things which they principally take to heart, the bestowing of a child, the finishing of a work or the like. If a man have a true friend, he may rest almost secure that the care of these things will continue after him." Ye are his friends.

Multum in Parvo

much in little



✠ The FOUNDER PADRE returned safely from his voyage as chaplain on board an oil-tanker and will be visiting the Services Clubs in Germany and conducting a Quiet Day for Chaplains there at the end of this month.

✠ The Rev. S. RONALD SMITH, Minister of the Congregational Church at Westerham, Kent, has been appointed to the Staff of Toc H and for a time will be working in Kent and Southern London.

✠ GEORGE LEE, lately in Victoria, Australia, and now Lincolnshire Area Secretary, is at Hursley Lodge, Northgate, Lincoln.

✠ There is a vacancy for a whole-time MARK PILOT for service around the Marks in the provincial cities. An exponent of Toc H, able to develop activities inside and outside the Marks, able to recruit the right kind of team of Marksmen, is what we are looking for.

✠ The CENTRAL COUNCILLORS will attend their annual meeting on April 17-19 and should be invited to report on it personally to their Branches. The account of the meeting cannot be published in the JOURNAL until JUNE.

✠ The ANNUAL REPORT and ACCOUNTS, published with this issue, contain matter that Branches would do well to consider, with or without their Councilors.

✠ KEYNOTE PROJECTS: This is the fourth month in which all Branches are asked to pay special attention to the matters selected as 'most appropriate to their own situation' and 'to study and to act upon them'.

✠ KEYNOTE CONFERENCES: The second will be held at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, Herts. on May 1-3 for Keymen selected and named by their Branches. The third will be held at the Manor House, Bewdley, Worcs. on June 12-14. At these and twelve others, the Keymen will be 'invited to discuss their selected matters in the light of experience already gained and with a view to further action'.

✠ IN ALL PARTS: 'Christian Aid Week', April 27 to May 2; 'Commonwealth Youth Sunday', May 10; 'People to People Week', November 22 to 28.

✠ IN MAY: East Anglian Conference, 2-3; Scottish Council, 9; Marks Wardens' Conference, London, 23-24; London Sports, Battersea Park, 30; Lincolnshire Rally, Skegness, 30-31.

Clearing-House for Compassion

PHILIP BARRON

ALTHOUGH the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief derives its name from its place of origin, it is now regarded as a national charity. It was born in 1942 when members of Oxford's University, churches and business houses (including the late Professor Gilbert Murray) got together to send help to children starving in occupied Greece.

But as all who allow themselves to become involved in human suffering know, needs are legion. Other urgent needs were brought to the Committee's attention and in 1945, despite the arrival of "peace", its officers felt obliged to continue the work.

OXFAM (as it is known for short) is not a relief agency as is generally understood; it is a sort of trust, confining itself to the vital task of raising money and supplies to send to people already at work in the world's need-spots. It does not specialize in any one field. *Any* victims of suffering, *however* caused, can turn to OXFAM with the assurance that their appeal will receive sympathetic and *immediate* attention, and that the answer will not be influenced by considerations of race, creed or politics.

Life-saving Speed

OXFAM acts with life-saving speed in emergencies. One morning the secretary, Mr. Leslie Kirkley, found an air-letter on his desk, from the Salvation Army in Korea. It told of a flood disaster which had left thousands of men, women and children without homes, food or dry clothes. Before lunch that same day, he was able to send a cable reading: "*£250 available for purchase of supplies flood victims Nakdong River area.*"

When news arrived of famine in Japan (due to crop failure), an initial grant was on its way the same morning. When sudden floods hit Valencia, Spain, OXFAM flew out a ton of clothing and bedding.

It is not always easy to get air-space at short notice. The co-operation of four airlines had to be enlisted to get supplies of milk powder and blankets to Iran after an earthquake.

As soon as an urgent appeal reaches Oxford, Mr. Kirkley



Young people help to sort clothing collected for Oxfam.

phones other committee members and a decision is made at once. Since OXFAM can only be as generous as the public who contribute its funds, the grant is often woefully inadequate—but it is frequently the 'stitch in time' that saves nine, by preventing a bad situation getting out of hand.

A stockpile of clothing and blankets is always kept ready at the charity's Chelsea shipping depôt. Here, and at a smaller depôt in Manchester, boots and shoes are packed into tea chests, and machines bale about ten *tons* of used clothing *every week*.

For meeting emergencies is a comparatively small part of OXFAM's work. Two-thirds of the world's people never get enough to eat. Millions of refugees need food, clothing, housing, medical care, education, jobs.

All year round, OXFAM carefully 'invests' money and goods entrusted to it by people who care, in relief projects all over the world. Incidentally, British ventures are not overlooked. Last year, for instance, an Englishwoman who had worked among displaced persons, Miss Muriel Gofton, succeeded in obtaining permission for ten ex-T.B. families to enter Scotland—if a home and future could be assured for them. She set about raising the necessary funds and OXFAM put up £1,000. To-day the scheme—named the Cala Sona Enterprise—is launched, and the first family has arrived. It is a real work

of mercy, for ex-T.B. sufferers, though cured, are not normally accepted as immigrants anywhere.

With the help of Government and U.N. supplies, feeding stations supported by OXFAM are able to provide one nourishing meal each day for 5,500 Korean children at a cost of only *one penny per meal*.

Tons of special fat-modified milk powder, for delicate infant stomachs, are shipped regularly to the Near East and Korea. Clothing collected by Inter-Church Aid in 'Christian Aid Week' and at other times, is passed to OXFAM for shipping, to save duplication of facilities.

OXFAM's funds come, mostly in small amounts, from all kinds of folk. A man in prison sent 10s. Christmas carollers give their collections. A ship's steward is among sponsors who have adopted refugee children, sending regular payments towards their upkeep. He now has an 'adopted' family of three, including a teen-ager he is helping through college. Thousands of pensioners, blind folk and others with no money to spare, play their part by knitting blankets from scrap wool (provided by OXFAM when necessary—hence a need for wool).

A useful idea has been the Gift Shop at 17a Broad Street, Oxford, where even the oddest piece of *bric-à-brac* can pair itself off with a new owner. Stock, which is all donated, is expertly valued and the proceeds from every sale go to the work. Perhaps you have an unwanted article you can send? Anything saleable is welcome. £1,500 was raised last year, too, by reclaiming scraps of precious metal from such items as old fountain-pens, broken watches, spectacle frames and even false teeth! Paper-back books find a ready sale in Oxford. (A notice-board card about the Gift Shop, and other literature, is available from the address above.)

Some relief agencies, helped by OXFAM, make interest-free loans to refugees so that they can become self-supporting. Monib Khoreim, for example, a young Palestinian refugee in Egypt, had been trained as a barber. With a loan, he was able to open his own shop, which now not only supports his family but also gives work to another refugee assistant. Vocational training schemes are also financed.

In these and countless other ways, OXFAM 'invests' your gifts. The only 'dividends' are the pleasure of giving and the knowledge that one has made the world's load of suffering just a little bit lighter.



First Fruits

AT LONG LAST the first Keynote Conference has taken place. Was it a success? Ask any of the sixty-five men who were at Elfinward, Haywards Heath, and without a doubt they would reply emphatically that it was a great success.

These sixty-five men represented thirty-seven Branches between the Thames and the South Coast; between Ramsgate and Portsmouth. There was a notably high proportion of younger fellows—indeed some of the Keymen who were there are still at school. Also the older members of Toc H present had a lively sense of purpose about them which was good to see.

It is interesting to note that half the Keymen were concerned with Keynote Projects directly related to helping youth organizations and encouraging service among young people of all kinds. The next most popular Project, that of tackling loneliness, was seen as a problem that affected the young almost as much as the old.

On the Saturday the Keymen broke up into various groups, according to their first choice of Keynote Project, and on the Sunday the groups reshuffled in order to give their members the opportunity to compare notes and experiences of their other selected Project too. Strange to say, it seemed to work out rather well and every man had his say.

Exciting Prospects

The more seasoned of us may have gone there rather with the feeling that we knew all there was to know about the twelve Projects, and merely hoping that these young fellows would catch up to our level. What a shock we were in for! Some of their ideas and their exploits were completely new stuff to us and we were only too glad to scribble down notes.

Seeing that Haywards Heath was the earliest Conference on the programme, we thought that most Keymen would turn up with ideas, but with very little practical experience so far, and we wondered also if the attendance might not be a little thin. Hats off to the Haywards Heathens for producing a full house, a full crop of ideas and a very impressive list of things already tackled!

Other Keymen

If Keymen in other parts of the country are wondering whether attendance at a Keynote Conference is really a desirable part of the Operation, they should know that the Keymen at Elfinward were emphatic that they would not have missed this weekend for worlds, and that it had enlarged their understanding beyond all expectation. They were even trying to insist that we should bring them all together again for another weekend in about twelve months' time, just to compare notes on their further exploits and experiments, but as we have fourteen more Conferences to play with over the next eighteen months, we had to tell them that they must get their Areas and Districts to do something about that—not Headquarters!

Here and there Keymen may be reluctant to attend the Weekend because their wives don't like them to be away from home for a night. Let us be quite frank about this. Not so long ago there was a war on and many of us were away from our homes for years on end. Is it to be said that when it comes to striving to build the Kingdom of God we are not even prepared to sacrifice one night away from home?

If Keymen reply that already they are spending several nights a week on Toc H affairs, then it means that their Branch is not playing fair by them. We asked Branches to 'liberate' their Keymen from other things so that they might be free to concentrate on Keynote matters. Keynote Projects were not intended to be the last straw to break the back of the willing camel. We hope the wives will spare their husbands.

Someone said "For evil to triumph, all that is required is that good men shall do nothing." Keymen are good men or they would not have been picked by their Branches, and we hope they will be willing to give up one weekend of their year to the end that evil may not triumph.

Press on, Keymen, press on!

"Tell them there is plenty of time" said the experienced demon. "lots of time—they always fall for that!"



From All Parts

direct from areas

LONDON—Toc H proved quite able to solve the problem of 'the play without Hamlet' in the Holborn Hall on Shrove Tuesday. Tubby's Pancake Party though without its host, who was abroad at the time, was a lively and enjoyable affair, with all the fun 'home-made'. A party from Mark VII gave a talented display of Modern Music and Dancing (skiffle and rock 'n' roll to most of us!) and they were followed by Mark XX who provided a lot of amusement with hula-hoops. Then came the Pancake Grease, with the contestants piped in by a kilted Highlander from New Zealand. John Callf (deputizing in his shirt-sleeves for the chef, who was prevented from coming) tossed a big pancake into the ring, and from the ensuing struggle John Barnes of Mark XXII emerged with the largest piece. Its an ill wind etc., and Tubby's absence caused the welcome return to a London Toc H gathering of Austen Williams, one-time London Padre. As Tubby's deputy he presented the Mafeking Note Trophy to John Barnes, at which point pancakes in paper-bags appeared for all present. 'Light' was taken with special mention of Austen's partner 'Greeno' and other members who had joined the Elder Brethren during the previous year. After this Austen talked very straight-from-the-shoulder about the responsibilities of Toc H men, as befitted the eve of Lent, and finally led homegoing prayers.

MAYNE ELSON.

SURREY—When six members of Epsom men's and women's Branches paid their weekly visit to Ewell Park Hospital on a Sunday afternoon in February, they found that a large proportion of the Staff had fallen victims to the 'flu epidemic. They immediately called in the friends that they had made in the locality through 'Operation Octopus' who willingly turned out and helped wash-up after lunch, prepared the tea and supper and put some of the elderly gentlemen who live there to bed.

BRIAN KINGSLEY-DAVIES.

NORTH WESTERN—A new group has started meeting at Heswall. Great Crosby entertained 150 old folk to dinner and a concert. Marksmen at Gladstone House are acting as voluntary canvassers in connection with the Liverpool X-ray campaign to combat T.B. Also in Gladstone House Liverpool Central Branch are running a District Family Night with Bob Purdy as the Guest-speaker. Blackpool not only despatched 300 toy parcels at Christmas but as a result of the job have gained ten potential members. Bebington have had an interesting and amusing time co-operating with research workers on occupational aspects of ageing. Saughall have three members playing an active part in local government.

JACK SHAW.

MARCHES—The majority of the Branches are well under weigh with their Keynotes planning, and are now reaching out in action. **Wellington** Branch in tackling Project 4, invited seven coloured friends to their meeting. This resulted in them realizing the urgency of providing a home of their own to strengthen this work in their midst. A fete is being planned for next month to raise funds for their building project. Two Conferences took place at **Shrewsbury** last month, one in the morning for Padres and the other in the afternoon for Padres and Pilots. The Rev. Herbert Leggate was our guest at both these events. The Rev. Richard Whittington has been appointed as the Honorary Divisional Padre and brings to us the knowledge of his experience as an ex-R.A.F. Chaplain.

T. ROMANIS.



Sevenoaks Chronicle

Children of Oak Bank open-air school entertained by Seal members

SOUTHERN—South Wessex District are holding their annual District Festival on Saturday, May 30, at St. Swithun's Church and Hall, Lansdown, Bournemouth. This is within easy reach of the Central Station and any members and friends who would like to join in the Festival, which starts at 4.15 p.m., will be warmly welcomed. **Southampton** District are organizing a Traction Engine Rally and Veteran and Vintage Car Display on Saturday, June 6, in a large field off the Winchester By-Pass. Please make a note of this date in your diary. We are looking forward to welcoming Tubby at two Guest-nights, one in **Andover** on May 4, and the other in **Newport**, Isle of Wight, on May 5. Reconstruction work at Talbot House Seafaring Boys' Hostel has been completed and the hostel is now in full use again. **Charminster** group have completed the conversion of an old loft into a meeting place. Having negotiated a sort of Jacob's ladder one is fully repaid by finding an attractive interior. The strength of the floor was well tested at the recent 'House warming' when members from all parts of the District were present. The new group at **Lyndhurst** which is making steady progress, much enjoyed the privilege of having the Administrator as a guest recently.

FRED BROOKER.



Evening Gazette, Middlesbrough.

At the opening of Grangetown 'Over 65' Club, Mr. A. M. F. Palmer, M.P., talks with Branch Members

LINCOLNSHIRE—Southwold District held a very successful Valentine Ball at Woodhall Spa. Spalding have been invited to take tea with the Derby Welfare Society when the latter tour the tulip fields. Coningsby held their Birthday Festival in March. The County Rally at Butlin's Skegness Camp on May 30/31 looks like being a record for attendance. The Lord Bishop of Thetford ('Pat' Leonard) will be the speaker on the Saturday, and will also take the Service for all Campers on the Sunday morning; the speaker on the Sunday will be Alec Churcher.

CLEM. CRUMMY.

SCOTLAND—The Iona Weeks usually allotted to Toc H have unfortunately been taken up by another body. However, the Iona Community will give other weeks in May and September to members of Toc H if they wish them and Miss Frances Beeton, c/o Sutherland, 25, Montpelier, Edinburgh 10, and Jimmy Taplin Esq., Roxana, The Roseway, Saltburn-by-Sea, Yorkshire, are making inquiries. Should you wish to spend a holiday in Iona this year, please write to one or other of the above now. Burns' Night was celebrated by Selkirk Branch, but with a difference. The evening started off by the members hearing a tape-recorded message from one of their most loyal members, Frank McKay, who was confined to his house through illness. Thereafter the members enjoyed themselves to the full in song, verse and story, all of which were duly recorded by Jim Wightman. The evening finished by all members signing off verbally, followed by the Ceremony of Light, the singing of the 23rd Psalm and homegoing Prayers. The expression on Frank's face would have to be seen to be believed, when the following evening, seated in a comfortable chair in his house, the whole night's proceedings were conveyed to him.

JOHNNIE MACMILLAN.

WESTERN LONDON—Putney Park members are regularly visiting a boys' hostel. During the last quarter of 1958 the Branch's Film Unit gave 20 shows at Old People's Homes and elsewhere. A new unit has been formed at **Willesden** and Cliff Chappell, 32, Hopefield Avenue, London, N.W.6. would be glad to hear from anyone interested. Meetings are being held at the Community Centre in Granville Road (near Kilburn Park Station) on Tuesdays at 8 p.m.

MAYNE ELSON.

MANCHESTER—As a step in its Keynote Projects **Atherton** Branch invited the Leaders of their neighbours The Companions Youth Club to meet them. This club had for some time threatened the sanity of the Branch with its exuberance and its rock 'n' roll music, and it was difficult to see any common point of interest between the two groups. But after a full and frank discussion, it is interesting to note that these much maligned teenagers spontaneously offered to help the Branch in its job with the old people, and to help raise funds to further this work. So it seems that jive and 'good works' can go together. **Shavington** Branch having recently successfully started an "Over 60 Club" in the village and handed it over to its members as a prosperous and growing concern, decided it was time to do something for the younger members of the community. The second of the Branch rooms was large enough, but unfortunately the floor sloped from back to front and was generally dilapidated, so last Spring the members started work and by December had taken up the floor, lowered and renewed the joists, put down new floor boards and connected the drains to the sewer, put in new kitchen with connecting door and done the decorating. The Youth Club opened the same month and three leaders outside Toc H were contacted who agreed to run the training and games side, while Toc H members take turns to assist in running the Club. The greatest amount of credit for contact with St. James Open Youth Group must be given to the **Barnoldswick** W.A. Branch. Last Christmas they organised and ran a party which was voted by all the teenagers a "smashing" do. Again on February 13, another special dance was arranged for them by the Toc H Women members and again the verdict of the youthful characters attending this social was a unanimous vote of approval and appreciation. From the men's point of view, our main job is to act as door-keepers and collectors of cash. This is a job which members take on in turn but some members' turns seem to come round quicker than others. One member has taken on permanent Wednesday night attendance. This is the toughest night and fortunately he is a tough character. So all should be well.

STEVE REGIS.

SOUTHERN LONDON—An appeal came to Toc H towards the end of last year for magazines for the men, mostly serving long terms, at H.M. Prison, Parkhurst, where there is a shortage of good reading-matter. **Carshalton** have accepted this task as one of their jobs, assisted by other members in the District. Papers and magazines—some being, of course, of an educational character—are being sent monthly to the prison. A number of other Branches in the Southern part of England are also co-operating.

SAM EVANS.

BEDS. & HERTS.—The Annual Area Rally is to be again held at the National Children's Home, Harpenden, on October 3 from 2 p.m. onwards. **St. Albans** are making preliminary contacts with a view to forming a group in the **Marshalswick** district of the city (Contact:—N. Peatfield, 62, The Ridgeway, St. Albans). A member of **Stopsley** flew to Blackpool in connection with the arrangements for a commentary of the Blackpool v. Luton football cup-tie. This was transmitted from the ground to hospitals and an old people's club in Luton and is the second occasion on which an 'away' match has been covered in this way.

FRANK R. FIGG.



Bristol Evening World.

Bristol Toc H Film Unit members hold a social on their one 'free' night in the year

NORTHERN—**Newcastle-on-Tyne** Branch held a District gathering in Mark XVIII at which the Guest-speaker, Mr. A. Blenkinsopp, M.P. for Newcastle East, gave a brilliant survey of the functions and work of the 'Health Bill', followed by a discussion particularly on its local workings. Welcome to the new growth at **Thornaby** where names of friends and interested folk will be welcomed by Fred Mudd, 122 Westbury Street, Thornaby-on-Tees. **Ryton-on-Tyne** Branch are giving cheer and entertainment to the patients at Dunston Hill Hospital with their Film shows. Training weekends are being arranged at Broekley Hall, Saltburn-by-Sea and at Whitby, by **Teeside** and **Cleveland** Districts respectively but members from other Districts are welcome. Both will be joint weekends for men and women. On February 7, Mr. Arthur Palmer, M.P., opened the new "Over 65's Men's Club" sponsored by **Grangetown** Branch. **Hetton-le Hole** Branch held a Rededication Service in their Branch Room, taken by Branch members with musical accompaniment supplied by tape recorder. Things are beginning to warm up in the "Keynotes" field and many Branches have found a place for their study in Branch programmes. Some members have said "This is the best thing that has come out of Toc H for years" and the same discovery is being made by folk outside the Movement.

CHARLES V. YOUNG.

EASTERN LONDON—Tower Hill Branch are backing an imaginative venture at St. Botolph's Church, Aldgate. The crypt is being turned into club premises for the young people—white and coloured, Christian and Jew—who live in the neighbourhood. The work of preparation has begun and the walls of the crypt have been white-washed by a team of Branch members. **Canvey Island** recently held a very successful Jumble Sale in aid of their Hospital Transport Scheme. On their way home from the Sale, the members gave prompt assistance to a frantic housewife and removed an oil stove, which had caught fire, from her house. Their Secretary comments: "Our Jobmaster is always firing us with more action, but the members were not looking for quite this way of being fired!" **JIM GREEN.**

NORTH WALES—The Branches and Districts have been considering two important subjects posed to them for study by the Divisional Executive. The question of closer relationships with neighbouring Areas and Divisions with a view to deepening fellowship within the Movement as a whole, and encouraging extension in the border industrial belt (there is little concentrated industry in the Division itself). The idea has been received with considerable enthusiasm generally and may spark off a greater interest in the Key-note Conferences, when we hope our members may pay visits over the border with return visits to Colwyn Bay in 1960.

GWILYM A. EDWARDS.

NORTHERN LONDON—Mill Hill have taken on a new job (for them) and are busy chopping and delivering firewood to old people in the Watling Estate. Celebrity Concerts are continuing: Cyril Smith and Phyllis Sellick are giving a recital on June 20. The annual Garden Party at Belmont School is fixed for Saturday, July 11 and the Branch would welcome offers of manpower to W. D. Price, 90, Bunns Lane, N.W.7. The Film Unit is as popular as ever, so much so that a new van has been purchased for transporting the gear. **Edmonton** members helped at a party for mentally handicapped children when, after a conjuring display by a member of the Magic Circle, the children joined in country dancing. Members of **Enfield** joined in table-serving at the annual party given by a committee of voluntary organizations to 400 of the borough's oldest residents.

MAYNE ELSON.

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Journal Smalls Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Editorial Office: Toc H, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

BRUGES. Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely city are offered good accommodation and a warm welcome at **HOTEL JACOBS**. Early booking advised. Write: M. Lietaert, Hotel Jacobs, 1 Ballestraat, Bruges, Belgium.

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